2) In cell E2 type the formula =D2*D1. The result is 7.5, correctly shown.

3) Copy the formula in cell E2 to cell E3. The result is 200, clearly wrong! Calc has copied the formula using relative addressing: the formula in E3 is =D3*D2 and not what we want, which is =D3*D1.

4) In cell E2 edit the formula to be =D2*D1. Copy it to cells E3 and E4. The results are now 15 and 22.5 which are correct.

The $ signs before the D and the 1 convert the reference to cell D1 from relative to absolute or fixed. If the formula is copied to another cell the second part will always show D1. The interpretation of this formula is "take the value in the cell one column to the left in the same row and multiply it by the value in cell D1.
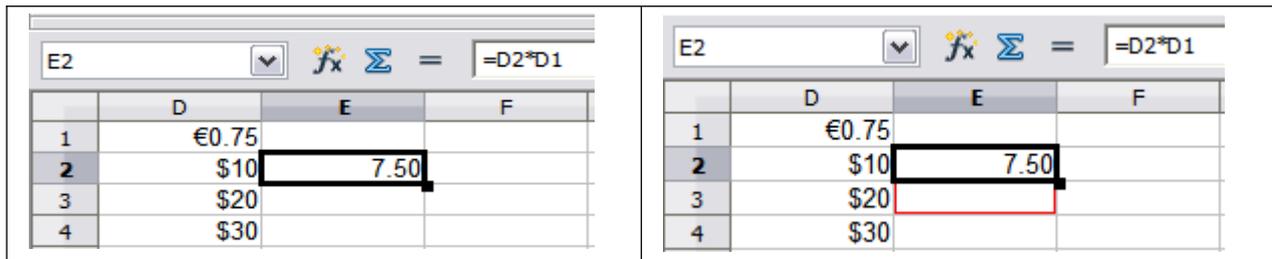
Enter the conversion formula into E2, which will show the correct result, then copy it to E3.
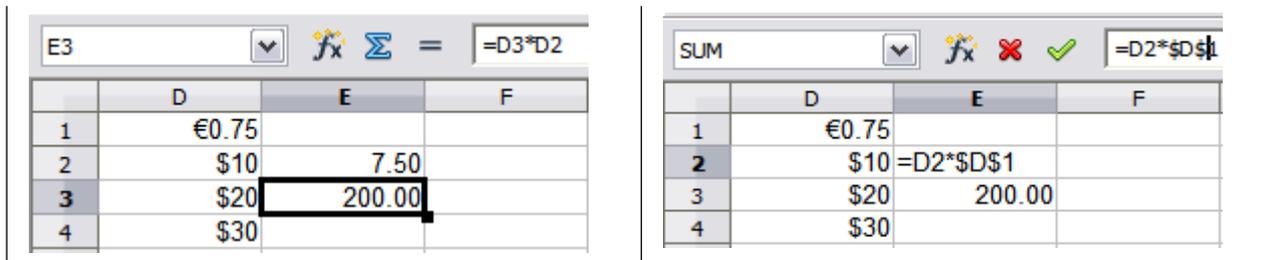
E3 result is clearly wrong; change the formula in E2 to use absolute reference.
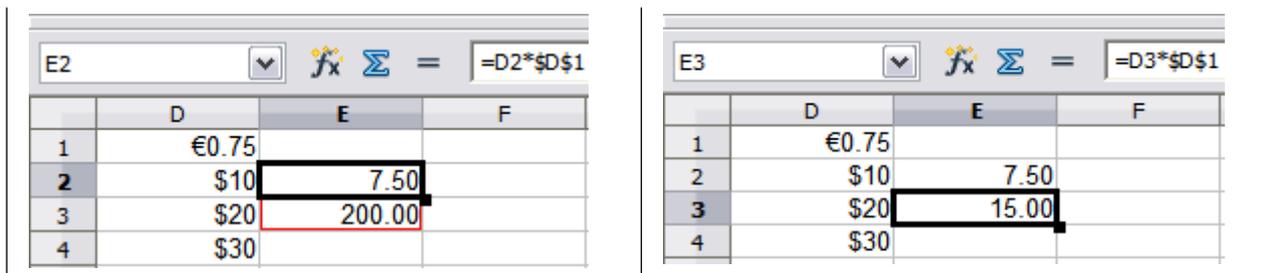
Copy the correct formula from E2 to E3 to get the correct answer.

Figure 223: Absolute references

Cell references can be shown in four ways, listed in Table 9.

Table 9: Cell reference types

Reference	Explanation
D1	Relative, from cell E3 it is the cell one column to the left and two rows above
D1	Absolute, it is the cell D1
$D1	Partially absolute, from cell E3 it is the cell in column D and two rows above
D$1	Partially absolute, from cell E3 it is the cell one column to the left and in row 1